

REMARKS

Regarding the status of the present application, Claim 9 has been canceled, Claim 1 has been amended, and Claims 1-8 and 10-18 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. A Petition and fee for a two month extension of time is enclosed. It is respectfully submitted that the present response does not require further searching on the part of the Examiner. It is also respectfully submitted that this response places this application in condition for allowance, or in any event, places it in better condition for consideration on appeal.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to by the Examiner. The abstract has been amended to address the Examiner's issue. Withdrawal of the Examiner's objection is respectfully requested.

The disclosure was objected to because of various asserted informalities. The Examiner is thanked for the detailed review of the specification and drawings to uncover the errors. The specification has been amended to address the Examiner's issues. The specification has also been amended to correct minor grammatical errors found during review.

With regard to page 1, lines 5-7, this correction has been made.

As to the Examiner's comments regarding page 14, lines 9+, the word "sample" is used in the specification because the symbol is copied and placed on the register. One symbol is copied onto one register, the next onto another, etc. A thread is a sequence of symbols that is copied onto a given register. Thus, the statement "The data stream is then sampled and placed into threads, with samples taken at fixed time intervals." in the paragraph starting at page 14, line 7 should be understandable in its context. It is respectfully submitted that the specification amendments made to the paragraph starting at page 14, line 7 in response to the first Office Action render the disclosure clear and understandable.

As to the Examiner's issue regarding pages 17 and 18 and Fig. 4a that "numerous references to Fig 4a showing a "device 10" appear to be inaccurate", reference numeral 10 at the right side of the figure identifies the device. Reference number 11 in Fig. 4a identifies data registers 11, which are clearly part of a device. Reference number 12 in Fig. 4a identifies a data stream 12 which is processed by the device 10 using the data registers 11. Reference number 19 in Fig. 4a identifies an output transmission stream 19 which is output from the device 10. All of the elements shown in Fig. 4a relate to a device. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Fig. 4a illustrates a device 10, and the specification is correct.

The specification and drawings incorrectly referred to "method 10", which should be "method 20". The drawings and specification (page 19) have been amended to correct this.

With regard to the "sampled 22 in threads" issue on page 19, this paragraph has been amended to recite "sampled 22 and placed into threads".

With regard to the Examiner's comments regarding page 17, the reference to "Each of these stacks 14" has been amended to recite "The stack 14." The Examiner stated that "page 16,

line 15 confusingly indicates that "14" is a processor wherein "(e)rror detection and correction computations are performed".

Also, it is respectfully submitted that the previous amendment corrected the paragraph at page 16, line 13 to read "On the receiving side of the communication channel, the arriving or received symbols, including both data and error correction symbols, get placed on their appropriate registers 11. Error detection and correction computations are performed using a queue 14 or stack 14 and the corrected data symbols are placed on a receive output buffer 15 in their correct positions. The output stream is drawn from the receive output buffer 15." Thus, the specification does not refer to a processor 14 as is suggested by the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the specification has been amended in a manner that addresses the Examiner's issues. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the discussion on pages 17 and 18 relate to an exemplary method, and that "exceptions to a one-to-one correspondence between threads and registers" that may be illustrated at other places in the specification do not necessarily make the specification unclear. In view of the above, withdrawal of the Examiner's objection is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to because reference numeral "10" should be "20" in Figs. 5 and 6. It is respectfully submitted that Figs. 5 and 6 have been amended to correct the numbering error. Enclosed is a marked up drawing showing proposed amendments marked in red ink. Also enclosed is a replacement reproducing master containing the amendments. Withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-18 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 has been amended to address the Examiner's issue. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is now clear and definite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,432,787 issued to Chethik. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,432,787 issued to Chethik. Claims 1 and 3-8 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,546,474 to Sako et al. The Examiner indicated that Claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter recited in Claim 9. Claim 1 is therefore believed to be allowable over the Chethik and Sako et al. patents. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 are respectfully requested.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 10-18 were allowed. The finding of allowable subject matter in this application is appreciated.

The prior art heretofore made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure to the extent indicated by the Examiner.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. It is again respectfully submitted that the present response does not require further searching by the Examiner, and places this application in condition for allowance, or in any event, places it in better condition for consideration on appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth W. Float', with a stylized circular flourish at the end.

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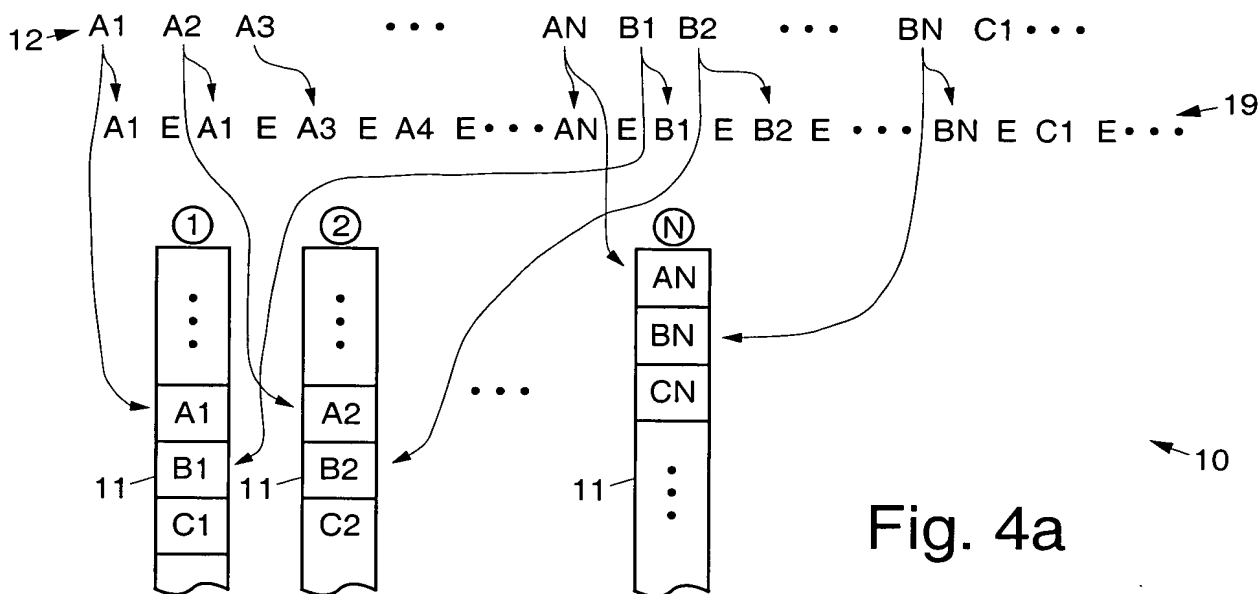


Fig. 4a

Fig. 5

DATA STREAM CONTAINING
BURST ERRORS

20
102

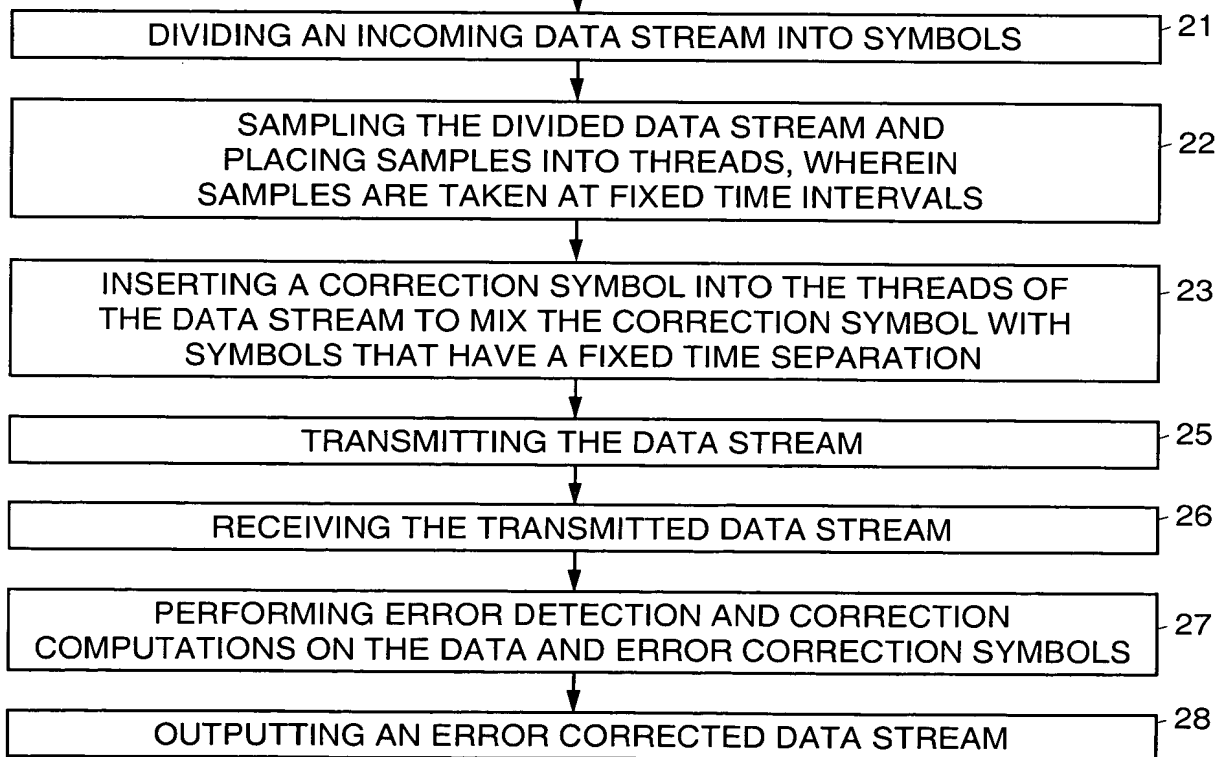




Fig. 6

